

## **Minutes of the Combined Health & Human Services Board and Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, June 16, 2005**

Chairs Farrell and Stamsta called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:** Supervisors Duane Stamsta (Chair), Jim Jeskewitz, Andy Kallin, Rob Hutton, Bill Kramer, Sandy Wolff and Barbara Roncke.

**Board Members Present:** Citizens Members Dennis Farrell (Chair), JoAnn Weidmann, Dr. John Guy, Mike O'Brien, Supervisors Duane Stamsta, Vera Stroud, Barbara Roncke. **Absent:** Supervisor Duane Paulson and Citizen Member Richard Wutt.

**Also Present:** Chief of Staff Lee Esler, Health and Human Services (H&HS) Director Peter Schuler, H&HS Deputy Director Don Maurer, Public Health Division Manager, Dr. Nancy Healy Haney, Adolescent and Family Services Division Manager Pat Voss, Senior Services Director Cathy Bellovary, Senior Financial Analyst Andy Thelke, Employment Services Manager, Sue Zastrow, Criminal Justice Collaborating Counsel Coordinator Shelly Cyrulik, Health & Human Services Supervisor Bill Graham, Senior AODA Counselor Shirlee Bedard, Badger Girls State Representative Emily Lorino.

### **Committee Agenda Items**

#### **Approve Minutes of May 19, 2005**

MOTION: Jeskewitz moved, seconded by Roncke to approve the minutes of May 19, 2005. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **Legislative Update**

Tabled until next meeting.

#### **Correspondence**

Esler stated that a copy of a DDES Memo Series that was distributed to State and County agencies was included in your packet. The memo states that as of 10-3-05 the use of all tobacco products is prohibited at any Division of Disability and Elder Services facilities.

#### **Executive Committee Report of 6-6-05**

Stamsta stated that the Committee reviewed the Department of Public Works capital projects and the Federated Library's Annual Report. Esler reported discussion was held regarding the UW Extension grant application for United Way's "Helping Kids Succeed". This grant would be used to train agency and organizational volunteers to teach a curriculum called "Strengthening Families" to 90 families in the HUD designated NRSA neighborhoods. The total of the of the grant would be \$200,000.

## **Board Agenda Items**

### **Approve Minutes of April 28, May 5, and May 19, 2005**

MOTION: Weidmann moved, seconded by Guy to approve the minutes from all three meeting dates. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Announcements**

Farrell announced that the Developmental Disabilities Advisory Committee is having its annual picnic at the Ranch on Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. All are invited to attend.

Weidmann announced that at a recent Wisconsin Public Health Association Meeting and WALHDAB meeting there was discussion about local health departments having evidenced based outcomes. She reported that LaCrosse County has an agenda item where they take about 15 minutes and look at performance standards. Weidmann suggested that we do this at our Health and Human Services Board Meetings. There are questions for each objective and government standard and she will work with Dr. Healy and Schuler to put this on the agenda every month.

Recently a Biowatch Incident Command calling tree was established to use in the event of a catastrophe. It allows the leading official at the receipt of the information to start the notification process both up and down the chain of command.

### **Meeting Approvals**

MOTION: Weidmann made a motion seconded by Dr. Guy to approve the attendance of Farrell, Weidmann and Guy at the June 24, 2005 140 State Review. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Future Agenda Items**

Farrell announced that at the Joint meeting on August 11<sup>th</sup> we will have a speaker from Carroll College to address the issue of Hispanic health care.

Weidmann asked that Performance Standards be placed on the August 11<sup>th</sup> agenda as well.

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION**

### **Committee Agenda Items**

#### **Ordinance 160-O-018: Department of Senior Services to Accept Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act Allocation**

Bellovary went over the ordinance which authorizes Senior Services to accept and modify the 2005 general fund budget by appropriating up to \$37,949 of Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act (MMA) transition funds to the benefit specialist program. to be used to provide education, outreach facilitation and coordination of participant enrollment for the MMA Part D State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program.

MOTION: Jeskewitz made a motion seconded by Roncke to approve the ordinance. Motion carried 7-0.

**Ordinance 160-O-019: Reclassify One Regular Full-Time Position of Public Health Technician to Community Health Educator and Designate as Bilingual**

Maurer stated that this is a topic we have previously discussed. A Public Health Technician has been performing the duties of a Community Health Educator. Dr. Healy Haney stated that the biggest problem for local Hispanic residents in getting health care is the language barrier. She also stated that during the Pertussis outbreak in 2004, many were in the Hispanic community and there was some difficulty in getting written materials and verbal discussions across to this community.

Zastrow stated that the ordinance was written to cover the need for this position to be bi-lingual. They are recommending that the Public Health Technician be reclassified to a Community Health Educator. This will result in a \$5,380 increase in personnel costs for 2005 and a \$13,500 full year cost for 2006. The present Public Health Technician has been providing bi-lingual skills which would have cost us roughly \$53,000 for Language Line services and \$2,000 for documents translated into Spanish. The position will require her to spend time in the community working with the Latino group and at clinics will be interpreting their issues and reading their records.

MOTION: Kallin made a motion seconded by Jeskewitz to approve the ordinance. Motion carried 7-0.

**Joint Committee/Board Agenda Items**

**State Public Health Division Chapter 140 Review**

Dr. Healy Haney reported that the Public Health Division will be reviewed by the State on June 24, 2005. We must meet all statutory requirements. Dr. Healy Haney stated that it has been a real struggle to meet the qualifications for a Level II and if they continue operating as tightly as they have been she cannot assure we will make Level II the next Chapter 140 review. We must have seven community programs, five of which meet the Wisconsin State Health Plan – we just made it this year, but we had more in 1999. The counties that have higher levels do so because of more community programs, i.e. prevention services such as for such illnesses as heart disease, obesity, etc. Most of our programs are targeted to very high-risk individuals that could end up in deeper end services. Milwaukee, Wauwatosa, West Allis and Cudahy are all Level III health departments. Our budget has been very static these past few years and we have been unable to add programs. It's the number of programs that a department can offer which determines the level. Dr. Healy Haney explained that communicable disease pressures have taken much of their time and resources.

The Health and Human Services Board members feel that Environmental Health should be responsible to this board as environmental health areas affect public health issues, etc. Environmental Health is also involved in the Chapter 140 review along with Public Health. Level III departments have an integrated environmental health and public health department. When asked what steps would be necessary for this county to become a Level III, it would require state personnel being included to work with us to determine what it needed, it would involve discussions with environmental health and would require additional personnel and funding.

### **Community Transition Update**

Peter Schuler stated that this program is actually part of the Criminal Justice Collaborating Council. The objective of the council is to restore justice principles and creating alternatives to incarceration – programs and processes. One of the initial programs created from the Task Force had to do with people with mental health and AODA problems in the jail. A position was created in this department to work with these individuals and Shirlee Bedard filled that position. Shirlee has been an inspiration and motivation as she has more than met the expectations of this position. Bill Graham was an intervention staff person in the jail. This year we received funding from the State which allowed us to add a half time person in the jail to work in conjunction with Shirlee. Graham passed out statistical information that Shirlee has put together from 2001 until 2005. Through May 27<sup>th</sup> of this year, she has had 162 contacts. It was predicted years ago that she would only have 110 contacts per year. She starts by screening the individuals to determine if they have mental health or AODA issues, they live in Waukesha County, and want help. Many of these individuals are homeless, family doesn't want anything to do with them, and they have not worked in years so when they leave the jail they have nothing to do other than go back to the habits that got them there in the first place, i.e. stealing, dealing drugs, etc. Shirlee has an agreement with Salvation Army that if someone is working with us, they will not be turned away, but many times because of overcrowding they sleep on cots in hallways, etc. There is not enough housing for these individuals. A number of them are in and out of the mental health center as well as the jail. Some of these individuals have been in and out of the jail 50 – 60 times and are on a first name basis to workers in the system. They continue to commit offenses because they are homeless and it is easier to sit in jail. It's difficult for them to find work because they have AODA, mental health issues, a criminal history, poor work history and therefore are not very employable.

Weidmann stated that this county has done more in this type of program to rehabilitate and keep people out of the jail. There are no other counties that we know of in the state that are running these types of programs.

Bill Graham stated that they have been anticipating what the needs are going to be in the next five years. They have been looking at cognitive therapy groups. Shirlee discussed criminal thinking – lack of effort, lack of interest – they work on challenging the individual's thinking so that they will consider that their learned thinking doesn't work at all. Shirlee will be able to get out in the community to talk with groups such as St. Vincent's, Congregating Churches of Waukesha, etc. to discuss what services they can offer for this clientele as a result of the half-time person who will start working in the jail.

### **Community Service Options Program**

Schuler gave a brief introduction of this program which was originally under the Sheriff's Department. We now work directly with Wisconsin Community Services. Holly Patzer distributed a copy of the 2004 year end report of the Adult Community Service Options Program. There are three components to this program, Huber Facility, Probation and Parole and direct County programs, with Huber having the greatest amount of activity. Patzer stated that the growth in phenomenal on the county's end, probation and parole are pretty constant. The agents can refer people to community service as an alternative to jail. The biggest and most time consuming part of the program is the Huber component. Last year 2,376 jail days were saved by

Huber inmates as a result of community service. Many are not working and thus doing something constructive and giving back to the community. They have about 200 non-profit agencies in their database. We are behind in our Huber hours last year and this year as well as many of the inmates have jobs. Besides getting out of Huber sooner, performing community service work can be used on a job application. Some have been hired by the agencies they have worked for. The site provides supervision while the work is being done. This is not the high-risk population so there are very few problems. It is part of the rehabilitation process – they can't sit around all day, they have to get up and do something. It's like having a job only no pay – they learn self-worth, what it's like to get up and go to work everyday and have a boss to respect. Transportation is a big issue – some have transportation available, some sites come and pick them up for a special project and sometimes they are taking a bus.

### **Board Agenda Items**

#### **Travel and Registration Procedure**

A letter was sent to all citizen members of boards and committees recently stating that their expense sheets must now be approved by the County Executive's Office. Members were given a copy of the Health and Human Services Board budget for attending conferences. They must obtain pre-approval before attending to determine if there is enough money in the budget to cover expenses.

#### **Announcements**

Maurer stated that we received word from the UW contingent that they passed their first review to participate in the National Children's Health Study.

Maurer also stated that a letter is sent to agencies every year prior to preparing the budget to determine what they would be asking for in the way of funding. However, this year we told the contract agencies that with this strict budget we would be unable to consider increases.

#### **Adjournment**

MOTION: Weidmann made a motion, seconded by Roncke to adjourn the Board meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

MOTION: Kramer made a motion, seconded by Hutton to adjourn the Committee meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

Minutes recorded by Kathy Leach

Approved on \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

